LETTUCE WORKERS REJECT TEAMSTERS IN LANDSLIDE VOTE

UFW Assails Agricultural Employment Board

Phoenix, Arizona—Lettuce workers at the Cook Produce Company farm rejected a Teamster unionizing effort by a landslide 42-3 vote in this state's first government supervised ballot election in the agricultural industry, held last November 27.

The election was conducted after the Teamsters petitioned the State Agricultural Employment Relations Board claiming that 30 per cent of the workers wanted IBT representation.

Cesar Chavez' United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO, on the other hand, has issued claims that it has union authorization cards from at least 80 per cent of the workers.

Phoenix UFW Director Jose Luna said that the Chavistas circulated leaflets at the fields prior to the election citing Teamster inability to provide benefits for its workers.

Said Luna, "All we did was tell the workers about the lettuce worker in Salinas who died and whose widow could not collect benefits from the Teamsters to cover burial expenses. We showed the workers pictures of the funeral and it was enough to turn off most workers and make them realize that the Teamsters are not really for the workers."

TEAMSTERS NO!

The Teamsters have also petitioned the state board for similar elections at Ever-Krisp Vegetables Inc., Tolleson and Tantata Farms and Bolline Produce, but Luna says that he doubts the Teamsters will actually follow through. The Phoenix UFW Director also says that he feels the Teamsters may stay away from elections since they cannot afford the embarrassment of losing three or four elections in a row.

Robert Dickelman, board counsel, said the three upcoming elections involve a similar choice between the Teamsters and no union unless the UFW petitions and qualifies for a spot on the ballot.

The UFW has not petitioned the board for a spot on the ballot and inside sources indicate that Chavez' union has no intention of trying to get on the ballot.

UFW attorney Steve Burton said that the union was challenging the constitutionality of the board on the grounds that seasonal and migrant workers as well as workers on strike are disbarred from voting. By law, Burton said that the UFW suit against the board was scheduled to be heard by a three-judge federal court in the near future.

The Teamsters have never won an election against the UFW whenever there was an impartial third party to supervise them and the most recent balloting indicates that they cannot win even when there isn't an opponent.
Yuma, Arizona - In the air-conditioned offices of the Yuma Harvesting Association, the time clocks are ticking toward High Noon, the moment of truth when they will have to face the striking United Farm Workers under the hot Arizona sun.

A three month old strike in the dusty fields set the stage for a do-or-die decision in December. This is the month when the YHA supplies 90 per cent of the nation's fresh lemons, the most profitable product of the local citrus industry.

At least two-thirds of the August-October harvest remains, with the November-December production possibly determining whether the growers can realize their potential boom year, or suffer an economic bust.

The California-Arizona growers estimated a potential bumper crop worth up to $48 million, 28 per cent better than last season's all-time record.

But their plans have gone astray, first when over 2,000 workers walked off the job in late August after they found that the growers would lower the wage per bin from $14 to $18, and who also seek UFW recognition.

To add to this, the summer was unexpectedly hot and moist and this has speeded up the growth of the lemons. Without pickers the weight of the last growing lemons has caused a 30 per cent loss to some growers from limb breakage.

Despite these losses the growers have held out, preferring to seek strike-breakers first from across the border in Mexico and later from as far away as Mexico and Washington. In order to save their bumper crop the growers needed 3,000 pickers, but as late as Nov. 15 they were claiming only 2,060 to be in the fields.

This figure, however, is disputed by UFW strike captains who say there isn't more than 240 workers in the orchards to date, local citrus industry.

The first three months of the harvest, with the work done up to speeded up growth of the lemons, produced these indications of a multi-million dollar disaster looming for the growers.

The growers reported only 21 per cent of the harvest going for fresh lemons - again, the most profitable farm product - compared to the usual 32 per cent.

- A 30 per cent damage figure from limb breaking, wind-scarring and sun-burning could mean a loss of up to $12 million for the total harvest.

- Actual pickers from August to October 25 produced shipments of 4,106 cartons worth $54 million in profit, compared to advance expectations of 6,090 cartons worth $75 million in profit. That means $321 million in potential income lost in the first 14 per cent of the harvest.

- Marketing and advertising costs, which are a part of production expenses, jumped upward to $400 per acre, while at the same time the price growers got for a 38-pound carton fell to an average of $6.6, from last year's $7.45.

Obviously, labor trouble was the last thing the growers needed in this situation yet they refused to talk with the UFW and its strikers, which now total 3,500.

The result of all this has been that the growers are "strip picking" all the lemons they can get their hands on.

This means that they are not concerning themselves with trying to pick table lemons anymore but instead are trying to get their fruit off the trees as soon as possible, in other words they are trying to save their trees from further damage and are sacrificing their fresh fruit profits in doing so.

When "strip picking" is ordered, wages are lowered and the pickers are placed on "strike pay," the UFW having reported the growers aren't considering lowering wages until at least after January when lemons are sold only to processors.

Yuma Manager Maurice Shaddle said pickers now are getting $16 a day which he said contributed to an increase in the labor force.

That $18 wage was the goal sought by the UFW, which has troubled and started the strike by the UFW, which now has 3,000 strikers picketing the growers' roads at the most critical moment - high noon - in Yuma's harvest season.

Yuma Growers Agree to Union Elections

San Luis, Arizona - UFW strike leader Manuel Chavez announced last Sunday that lemon growers in the Yuma area have agreed to hold union representation elections.

The growers have been the target of a bitter 14-month dispute in which striking workers are demanding higher wages and recognition of the UFW as their bargaining agent.

Chavez, younger brother of UFW President Cesar Chavez, said the growers agreed to hold elections after Congressman Edward Roybal (D.-L.A.) and George Shadle, International interpreter, recommended an election.

According to the information, Shadle and the growers have agreed to allow elections only if governor-elect Sol Corolla supervises them.

"Citrus Unions, a UFW strike organizer, said that the recent developments were "magnificent" and added that he hoped the elections would easily be won by his union.

The United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO headquarters announced last week a visit by a UFW strike leader and UFW President Leonard Woodcock where members of the union told the growers that the UFW would conduct elections.

At a meeting last week, the growers agreed to a three month strike with the condition that the UFW would conduct elections.

The growers said they would hold the elections as soon as possible.

The UFW has been working with the growers to try to save their trees from further damage and are sacrificing their fresh fruit profits in doing so.

By fighting the large multi-national corporations, Brother Torres says, "we will work on an international level to fight oppression and the growers' problems will be associated with in certain governments."

A longtime supporter of the farm worker struggle, in 1966 he joined Congress in International Cosmetic Farm Worker's strike.

Brother Torres also was instrumental in setting up the union to support the UFW grape boycott.

"Supporters of the UFW grape boycott, the Vietnamese War workers agreed to refuse to unload grape ships," he says.

When asked if his support for the UFW would continue in his new position, Brother Torres replied that the UFW today, as in the past, was very much involved in fighting the growers with international contacts and in informing other unions to support the UFW boycott.

He says "I'm sure I will follow up with all the policies of our union to support the farm worker struggle wherever it is needed.

He adds that the UAW has been a strong supporter of the strike and that he assumes President Leonard Woodcock of the UAW and the International Executive Board will carry on their support of the international level.
CHAVEZ CALLS FOR INVESTIGATION INTO SHERIFF VIOLENCE

United Farm Workers of America President Cesar Chavez today called for a congressional investigation into the actions of law enforcement officers who tried to break a farm workers strike in Yuma, Arizona. The strike was called in response to an attempt by growers to drive picks workers out of work by using deputy sheriffs and "gallows" -reen employees" to 

"(The sheriff's deputies) don't want to arrest our people," Chavez said. "They have no 
grounds for arresting them, they just want to beat them up." Smith was quoted in local news 
papers stating he was "working on ways to break the strike." Smith also 

called members of the UFW an "army more than eight, they were maced. Four 

women in one car were arrested, including a sixteen-year-old girl. One of the 

women was choked by deputies as they arrested her.

New Farm Workers' Aid Set

L.A. Trade Unions to Sponsor Christmas Caravan to Delano

Los Angeles, Calif.- A Christmas caravan has been sponsored by the County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, is planned for Saturday, December 21.

Representatives from various L.A. trade unions will deliver food, toys and cash contributions to the United Farm Workers in the spirit of solidarity and Christmas.

The caravan is scheduled to depart the Los Angeles and San Fernando Valley areas at 10 a.m. From there, they will go to Delano and continue on to Reedley, including perishable as well as non-perishable foods.

Following the delivery, the "Angelin" unionists will attend a rally at the UFW's Fort Alice where the National Executive Board is expected to greet the doctoe.

Ex-Teamster Sentenced In Bribery Case

San Jose, Calif.- A federal jury has sentenced Teamster Theodore Gonsalves to prison and fined him $10,000 for conspiracy to pay the bribe.

The prosecution was launched by the United Farm Workers, the AFL-CIO and the National Farmer Union. The unionists claimed that Gonsalves had paid the bribe after telling a UFW official that he wanted to get us here to break the strike.

The lawyers of the unionists have hired "gunfiders" to try to break the strike but the workers have stood their ground.

Chavez said that the success of the UFW strike was due to the support of the workers and the community.

"We are calling on Sunkist to 

\(\text{El Malcriado - December 9, 1974 - 3} \)
CAMPESINOS HEAR PICKETS RIGHTS CALLED "MOB RULE"

GROWERS MOVE TO STOP UFW PICKETERS

Sacramento, Calif. - The Teamsters Union says it will mark picketing that frustrates Teamster boycotts in courts throughout the state.
The Northern California Grocers Association supports court actions won against UFW picketers in Davis, Bakersfield, Redwood City and elsewhere. It plans another lawsuit against Teamsters picketers, according to Frank Marcello, the association's attorney. Marcello has been fighting UFW boycotts in court for the past 10 years.
Interviewed Nov. 26 in the grocers' headquarters in Sacramento, Marcello says he is preparing a Teamster boycott to be launched against stores that agree to remove the lettuce, grapes and Gallo wines under boycott the previous month. The grocers asked for the limit on picketers to apply to 30 stores in Kern County.

Superior Court Judge Walter Osborn Jr. was asked to limit the number of UFW picketers at each store, the latest move by the grocers in their widespread attempt to stop the union's boycott of lettuce, grapes and Gallo wines.

"You're going to have to be quiet, you're holding court here," an Angolan court bulletin said as they walked into the courtroom, as if they didn't know where they were.

The judge said he was "painfully conscious" of the issue as he opened the hearing on whether to give the grocers a preliminary injunction against the UFW picketers. He granted a temporary restraining order last September after the California Department of Agriculture enjoined picketers in front of two or three stores carrying weak products the previous month. The grocers asked for the limit on picketers to apply to 30 stores in Kern County.

Judge Osborn postponed Volmer's demurrer, which was a challenge to the judge's right to issue such a mass injunction on constitutional grounds. He set Jan. 24, 1974 as the date for final answer to that ruling.

On the injunction request itself, the judge noted there have not been many such cases before so he will have to study the legal arguments, as well as the new declarations from witnesses on both sides that claim physical threats were made by the other side.

At one point, the judge commented: "This court doesn't go for store owners making threats against picketers." Volmer told the campesinos, "We may have some..."

Volmer and Roder argued over the question of physical threats. Roder said Judge Osborn "can't stand mob rule from
taking over. Four pickets at each door turns nothing less than mob rule. There's no reason why one picket at each door can't get their point across. There's no reason to allow picketers to engage in constant intimidation of customers, and that's what's been happening in Kern County. There has been yelling and screaming like you going to be dead if you go in that store..."

Volmer said Roder's accusations were based on declaration, not evidence in the courtroom. "Any of the picketers have constitutional rights to be decided on the basis of declarations alone? They're filled with constitutional statements, just a lot of hearsay. There's no way to cross-examine a declaration. There has been no showing of a specific statement by a picketer. There has not been even one example of a physical threat of violence," she said.

According to the grocers, they seek only reasonable restraints, she added "it says blacklist the First Amendment from..."

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Over-Production Forces Growers Into Market Advisory Boards

Keene, Calif.-The State's growers are pouring thousands of tons of peaches, nectarines and apricots, and the world faces severe food shortages. This senseless destruction lies in that California-the nation's largest agricul- tural producer-is producing surplus crops which can not be sold at premium prices, or that one-producers are growing something that the growers destroy their crops, yet this destruction is sanctioned by law under the California Marketing Act of 1935. This legislation allows growers to form "market order advisory boards" which can regulate food production with the force of State law. The boards determine what crops the grower will produce and how much it will cost.

Membership in the board is limited to persons having economic interest in a commodity, who with monopolistic practices, control the rising and declining of food prices.

If, for example, a board determines that 4,000,000 tons of peaches will satisfy the demands of the nation's consumers, then it will order growers to destroy all surplus peaches and thus ensure that prices won't be pulled down by overproduction.

Disregard Real Needs

In 1970-71, State peach growers were told by their advisory board to destroy 43,000 acres of peach orchards, costing growers $500,000,000, and 200,000 tons of peaches. By doing this the growers were able to keep production down to a level that brought them the highest price.

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BOYCOTT SWEEPS CANADA

Toronto, Canada — Dominion Stores management closed their doors against UFW boycotters carrying 35,000 petition signatures that asked for the removal of grapes and lettuce from Toronto's largest chain stores.

Two of the 12-member labor and church delegation presenting the petitions finally gained access to Dominion headquarters by a rear entrance. However, Allan Jackson, Dominion executive vice-president, refused to either meet with Father Bob Madden of St. Michael's College and Sam Dobkin of the Ontario Federation of Labor or with the delegation waiting outside.

Jackson further declared that 35,000 Dominion customer signatures meant nothing to him and would in no way affect Dominion executives.

"HYPOCRITICAL"

Marshall Ganz, director of the Canadian boycott and member of the UFW National Executive Board, recently charged that Dominion's position is "hypocritical."

"Dominion has said it would stop selling non-UFW grapes if its competitors do so. This is hypocrisy. On one hand they recognize the farm workers' struggle in legitimate, and on the other they take the attitude that nothing is more important than money," Ganz continued.

Over 650 boycott supporters rallied in the Dominion Stores parking lot November 2 to demand again that non-UFW California grapes be removed.

Richard Chavez, New York boycott director, Gilbert Padilla, Washington D.C., boycott director and Stephen Roberson, director of the Montreal boycott, were featured speakers. Giloli Chavez and Padilla are also members of the UFW National Executive Board.

According to Father Brad Masi- man, director of the Office of Social Action of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto, UFW advocates collected the petition signatures in just weeks, on weekends. In addition, only customers at 33 Dominion Stores were approached.

As of September 30, grape sales throughout Canada were down 25 percent, while in Toronto alone, grape sales dropped 34 percent.

Boycott activity in the province of Ontario is continually escalating, for example:

* In Hamilton, the UFW committee held its first Dominion boycott meeting with 56 supporters on November 16 and a boycott endorsement by the City Council appears likely.

* Gilbert Padilla visited Ottawa in late October where he attended a "poverty lunch" with clergy, a supper hosted by the Gospel Labor Council, and a rally at the local university. The students presented a $1,250 donation to UFW.

* Representatives of labor, churches and the University of Waterloo formed a boycott support committee in November and pleaded Zehner Store headquarters, bringing the boycott to the kitchener area.

* Boycott organizers in Hamilton increased their activity and plan a major demonstration at Dominion Stores on December 14. The Hamilton Social Action Fair sponsored a booth for the UFW at the Hamilton Social Action Fair and distributed hundreds of boycott button.

* Ottawa boycotters kicked off a street level campaign on November 20. The three major churches, two universities and the labor movement in Ottawa are actively supporting the boycott.

COUNTRYWIDE

UFW support is also mounting throughout the country.

* The labor movement cleaned grape stock out of over 25 stores in Sydney while the Cape Breton Cooperative Society advertised they support the UFW and are not selling grapes and lettuce.

* For the past year, the British Columbia Federation of Labor has banned grapes as "false cargoes," meaning that no members will unload the boycotted produce. Super-Valls, the only major British Columbia produce distributor, will not buy grapes.

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Swedish Boycotters Denounce U.S. Embassy Propaganda

Stockholm, Sweden — The U.S. embassy here received heavy criticism from local supporters of the UFW lettuce and grape boycott, which is now gaining the sympathy of many Europeans.

Victor Pestoff, director of this country's boycott, recently charged, in a letter to several U.S. senators, that the American embassy "has consistently taken the side of the Teamsters unions and growers."

Pestoff cited several examples in substantiation of his charge.

"First, we find the embassy's involvement in the commercial promotion of the boycotted products particularly offensive. The Foreign Agricultural Service pays advertising costs for American grapes and lettuce in Europe. In light of the certified labor dispute in California, we would expect the Agricultural Attaché to cease such promotion campaigns."

"Instead, we learned recently that the Attaché in Stockholm actually goes a step further and pays retail chain stores' sales campaigns for boycotted grapes and lettuce. The difference between sales prices and ordinary prices is subsidized by the American Embassy."

"We do not ask that the embassy promote Farm Workers' lettuce, but we do not believe that it ceases promotion of all grapes and lettuce for the duration of the conflict."

"Secondly, when the embassy is asked for information on the boycott, it consistently supplies half-truths to support the growers' position. We do not accuse the embassy's spokesmen of actually lying, but rather of supplying only half of the information."

"For instance, the conflict is always portrayed as merely one between two unions. That, of course, is the growers' point of view. Note that on many points the letter (from the Agricultural Attaché to chain stores) directly contradicts the 1969 senatorial report on Migrant Labor."

In addition to publicizing the U.S. embassy's position on grapes and lettuce, the boycott committee also encourages consumers and stores to boycott the disputed products.
D. A. Disputes UFW Arrests in Colorado

Wheat Ridge, Colorado-District Attorney Malachy Brady disposed of the recent arrests of three people picketing Applejack Liquor store in an effort to remove Gallo wine from the shelves, Applejack management, in an agreement with local police, insisted that all picketing be limited to 15 feet north of the nearest doors, in this town just combining efforts.

Picketers who were confined were within their legal rights to continue, reporting to media the boycott of grapes and facilities. The campaign, contact was an assault the boycott Russman would attack the boycott are the Union's front line of defense."

com mittee announced it would cut UFW grapes, lettuce and Gallo wines. However, every store owner claims the Teamsters union has threatened them with secondary boycott if they remove the scab products, therefore, the owners have called in the UFW boycott.

An arrest yesterday was recently placed in a Kern County police station for four months to take the boycott from the fields to the town, agreement not to honor the boycott.

In addition, this ad is displayed in the windows of Thriftmart and is distributed in leaflet form to customers.

However, Circle K Stores, which carry liquor and small wines, recently agreed to remove Gallo wine from its stock in an apparent break with the local policy.

The last month has witnessed a rapid increase in requests to remove Gallo wines.

Police Arrest Activist in New Jersey

Jersey City, New Jersey - Police received two UFW support groups last month in a Roman Catolic prison, after a contingent of union organizers and advocates entered a New Jersey county jail.

The Reverend John P. Ryan and Wayne Ramirez of East Orange were arrested the previous day for disorderly conduct at a Two Guys store while distributing leaflets calling for a boycott of California grapes and lettuce.

Ryan and Father Egan, the assistant pastor of St. Matthew's Church, were held on $500 bail. However, both refused to pay the bail "on principle." Soon after the picketing at the jail began, Ryan and Carlos N. Rosa released the two men on their own recognizance.

The hearing for the boycotters was delayed until Dec. 4, since neither the defendants and the attorney were notified the day the men appeared. (The owners of the stores are represented by the New Jersey Coalition.)

Picketing activities are continuing at Two Guys and there have been no subsequent incidents.

The New Jersey boycott recently succeeded in winning agreements from two liquor store chains, representing 40 establishments. However, the stores will continue to carry Gallo wine.

Miami News Supports UFW Boycott

Miami, Florida-The UFW has received additional support from the Miami News, a major Eastern publication, endorsing the boycott of grapes and wine.

The News ran two sympathetic editorials about the UFW efforts and organizers here feel the publicity was a big boost to their campaign.

In addition, local radio stations, including 100 Public Service announcements during the Christmas season which ask listeners to support the boycott.

UFW Visits Thousands of Homes

San Francisco, Calif.-UFW boycott organizers are sending hundreds of supporters to neighborhoods in the Bay Area. San Francisco and Bay Area to take the "Dish Bump Grape, Lettuce or Gallo Wine" message door to door.

In the San Francisco Bay Area, for example, close to a thousand people knocked on the doors and visited over 100,000 residences in just three weeks.

According to several organizers, the response was very favorable and they feel that because of the personal contact involved, many new people will enter the UFW boycott.
From the first days...

Detroit, Michigan — Throughout the course of the United Farm Workers' struggle for union recognition, the United Farm Workers union had gained itself a strong following among workers. When the first strike was launched in Delano, California, in 1965, Walter P. Reuther, UAW President, went to Delano to pledge his union's support for the fledgling UFW.

Reuther had made it his personal goal to win the support of UFW members from across the United States and Canada. In addition, he joined the UFW at meetings, in the strike kit, and on the picket line, helping push the cause to success.

Despite the support and encouragement of Reuther, the UAW's work was not received with open arms. UAW Retired Workers, on the picket line in support of UFW boycott of grapes and lettuce, the retired workers see the farm workers' struggle as their own. In the early days of organizing, Canadian grape farms in the Coachella Valley and Delano, unorganized pit workers, and grapes workers, agreed to use their leverage to support the UFW boycott.

From the first days of the UFW boycott, the UFW strikers were supported by their brothers and sisters, along with the people of the world, in demonstrating the tragic death of Walter and Mae Reuther. When they returned to Canada, they carried the story of the strike and organized inside support for the grape boycott.

UAW members, including 600 Ford local union leaders, joined the celebration. The UFW dedicated the building in the name of Roy L. Reuther, who died in 1950, and named it UAW-Canada Local 100.

The UAW contributed $10,000 and Canadians, building tradesmen donated thousands of hours of labor to erect the structure.

A new dream, UFW President, expressed the realization of all UFW members when he declared: "The American labor movement can't live with its conscience unless we do everything possible to help the farm workers, to represent the best that is in the farm workers as well as in the farm workers themselves."

The UFW dedicated the building in the name of Roy L. Reuther. The UFW plans to live in the spirit of Roy L. Reuther, who lived it as a brother of humanity, of organizing, of the Federation of Man to help his brother, of eliminating poverty and hunger and oppression. It is to this cause that Roy Reuther dedicated himself and we must continue to work for the good that is in the farm workers as well as in the farm workers themselves.

Not only UAW members have been helping the farm workers. Canadian members arrived in Coachella and Delano in June, 1969 to demonstrate the support that the farm workers have received. The UFW dedicated the building in the name of Roy L. Reuther, who died in 1950, and named it UAW-Canada Local 100.

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The Growers and “The Grapes of Oppression”

Many newspaper columnists and pundits have written rebuttals to the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO, apparently thinking that the spirit for justice and liberation unleashed in the 1960’s has suddenly been extinguished by the sleights of the grower-Teamster “sweetheart contracts.”

Nothing, however, could be further from the truth and the same impulse that inspired the Civil Rights movement and the anti-war movement, now angiulates Cesar Chavez’ campaign movement in its showdown against the grape barons of California.

And that impulse is an idea, an idea of dignity, an end to racial discrimination, decent working and living conditions and the right to self-determination.

Idea of justice, just as scientific truths, cannot be extinguished overnight nor can they be stopped by geographic boundaries, by court mandates or jail cells.

As Victor Hugo once said, “Nothing can stop an idea whose time has come,” and quite similarly, the United Farm Workers union has not abandoned its fight for justice simply because the grape barons and mafioso Teamsters union have signed “sweetheart contracts.”

Cattlemen vs. the Public

What’s Behind the Slaughter?

“...the cattlemen feel that one answer to their problems is to restrict imports...”

More recently, cattlemen continue their protests by killing animals but gave away the meat to needy families. Their generally sincere protests have been turned against meat against meat against meat policies.

In all the instances the farmers explained their wasteful and senseless actions as protests against meat policies. They report that numbers of beef and pork is less than the cost of production for their animals and the farmers receive less than the cost of production.

More recently, cattlemen continue their protests by killing animals but gave away the meat to needy families. Their generally sincere protests have been turned against meat policies. They report that numbers of beef and pork is less than the cost of production for their animals and the farmers receive less than the cost of production.

Instead, the cattlemen feel that one answer to their problems is to restrict imports and in this way they would have more control over the price of their meat. Their controlling the prices would mean that meat costs for the consumer would go in only one direction—up.

Meanwhile the prices of all foods—i.e., wheat, corn, soybeans, etc., remain astronomically.

The cattlemen explain that the consumer pay more and the meat producers get more since the government had to impose a freeze upon meat imports and the low prices earned for their animals.

Cattlemen claim that meat imports—both beef and pork—were more than tripled, while soybean prices more than tripled.

The government explanation was that there is a shortage due to “calm terrorism,” but many of the cattlemen feel that the shortage was due to “calm terrorism.”

Cattlemen explain that the entry of meat—ground meat, sausage, and processed meat products—are cutting into one of their most lucrative markets.

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The Braceros: Imported Slaves or International Barter?

By Bill Chandler, UFW Director

Some issues back, an article by Ronnie Dugger entitled "Our Peculiar Migration," appeared in the Commentary section of your magazine (See Oct., July 56). The article itself with the problem of the massive importation of illegal workers for use as farm workers across the Southwest. Mr. Dugger made a number of points which we regard as misleading and events now make it imperative that we correct.

The most astounding mistake that he made, both from a moral and an historical point of view, was perhaps the so-called endorsement of the old bracero system as a program "designed to get north Mexican farm workers by coming to work on it, if farm legally at regulated wages and with other benefits that also qualified American workers from dirt cheap and victimized competition..."

The BRACERO program, or Public Law 78, was not designed for any such humanitarian purposes. Public Law 78, which was in effect from 1944-64, was passed and defended first, foremost and solely for the purpose of providing for the giant corporate growers of the Southwest with a prime source of cheap labor in the form of hundreds of thousands of Mexican nationals. Long after the supposed "labor shortage in agriculture caused by World War II was over, the number of braceros imported was not kept under control for use as farm workers, laborers and other coloreds.

The most crucial point that Mr. Dugger overlooked was that there were over two hundred thousand foreign workers obtained in an America where millions were unemployed.

The Rodino Bill

From my own experience, I can remember instances after instance of being told, "We're not hiring," only to find that the same ranch had hired a bracero or a foreign worker the very day after I left. We have gone to any number of corporations and establishments, who are involved in harvesting cotton, sugar beets, and other crops; hence the need for the extension of the bracero program. Everyone conveniently forgot that the white fruit tramps of the Thirties had done exactly the same thing, even in the face of unconstitutional interference; hence the need for the extension of the bracero program. Everyone conveniently forgot that the white fruit tramps of the Thirties had done exactly the same thing, even in the face of unconstitutional interference.

The most crucial point that Mr. Dugger overlooked was that there were over two hundred thousand foreign workers obtained in an America where millions were unemployed.

Farm workers will organize themselves, fight the loss of their jobs, stop the importation of a foreign slave labor force

These points need to be made, because now from Washington and from Mexico City comes the word that Presidents Ford and Echeverria are planning to reinitiate the bracero program by joint executive order. Rumors are that the orders will be issued after a meeting of the two Presidents in Brownsville, Tex., in mid-November. For the giant corporate growers like Temoneo, Dow Chemical, the Southern Pacific Railroad, and others, this will signal a glorious return to the good old days of a totally controlled workforce in the fields. For President Echeverria, the emigration of hundreds of thousands of young, hungry males will provide a welcome safety valve in a society where demands for social change are becoming stronger and stronger.

The same coalition that fought the old Public Law 78, the church, labor, and liberals, must be reestablished, stronger this time, to oppose this "executive action." We would like to count on the help of the Observer to stop the importation of foreign workers, legal or illegal, as a strike-breaking force to break the strike. Dugger seems to have decided that a legal system of sweat shops is better than the current illegal system of slaves for workers. He does not take into account the right of the workers to control their fate.

Some things to be said in favor of the Rodino Bill. The main one, praised by both Dugger and the Texas Good Neighbor Commission, is that it establishes the legal precedent of making the employer of illegal workers liable in court instead of the employee, which he is presently the case. The Rodino Bill has two major failings, however, and these failings make it nothing more than a piece of social legislation. One failing is that it is racist and discriminatory, the other is that it is impractical and unenforceable.

The bill is racist because it leaves intact the existing structure of immigration quotas, which discriminate against the immigrants from the Western Hemisphere (Latino Americans), in favor of immigrants from the Eastern Hemisphere (Europeans). Under the Rodino Bill, persons from the Western Hemisphere residing in the U.S. without necessary documents would be required to return to their countries of origin for one and a half to two years before being eligible to either legally. They then would be subject to the limited quotas and required to swear they have not had "unauthorized employment" in the U.S.

These restrictions will not cut off illegal immigration and will only serve to make it easier for those who wish to immigrate legally. What must be done instead is the relaxation of the existing immigration quotas. The immigration of entire families must be encouraged, instead of the current illegal smuggling of largely young, single males with no stake in the community to which they are coming, and no reason to struggle for its improvement.

The Rodino Bill is impractical in several respects. The penalties it provides to punish guilty employers are mere wrist-slapps; an insignificant fine of $500 for the second offense within two years of the first, and, later, the possibility of prosecution of the employer for a misdemeanor, if the attorney general so sees fit to push it. No punishments or restrictions are outlined for employers who hire illegals as strike-breakers. And worse, the bill provides the employer with a giant loophole to save him from any prosecution at all.

The bill states that the employer has fulfilled his duty under law once he has obtained a permit to employ illegals. In question asking to his lawful presence in the U.S. The seizure of proof is shifted from the employer to the alien with the stroke of a pen. Once the alien worker is permitted by contract or tricked into signing such a statement, the employer is home free. This provision alone makes the bill a joke.

Hope For The Children

The most crucial point that Mr. Dugger overlooked was the massive importation of strike-breakers into the fields of California and Arizona. We would like to see passed an immigration law which provided for real penalties for the hiring of illegals as strike-breakers, including jail sentences for the employers and contractors guilty. Until then, existing laws which prohibit the use of foreign workers, legal or illegal, as a strike-breaking force should be rigorously enforced.

It is in this context that Dugger seems to have decided that a legal system of sweat shops is better than the current illegal system of slaves for workers. He does not take into account the right of the workers to control their fate.

Dugger has managed to drop an obscure immigration law which provided for real penalties for the hiring of illegals as strike-breakers, including jail sentences for the employers and contractors guilty. Until then, existing laws which prohibit the use of foreign workers, legal or illegal, as a strike-breaking force should be rigorously enforced.

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Tomato Harvester Crew Visited by Strikers—During the United Farm Workers, Albany, strike in Northern California last fall, union members visited tomato harvester crews in the fields. Now the growers are pushing rapid development of electronic eye harvesters to cut labor needs in 1975, a move they said was the answer to the UFW organizing drive. (El MALCRIADO Photo)

Vision of Automated Agriculture

BY STRIKERS—During the United Farm Workers, Albany, strike in Northern California last fall, union members visited tomato harvester crews in the fields. Now the growers are pushing rapid development of electronic eye harvesters to cut labor needs in 1975, a move they said was the answer to the UFW organizing drive.

A tenant farmer near Woodland, Calif.—Tomato growers are now retailing against a United Farm Worker organizing drive by pushing rapid development of electronic eye harvesters to cut labor needs in 1975.

The growers are being assisted in their stepped up mechanization drive by companies that manufacture agricultural harvesters. The program has the approval of the United Farm Workers, which is participating in the drive.

As with the tomato harvester, (unidentified) is one of the Department of Transportation Union charged.

TOMATO HARVESTER CREW VISITED BY STRIKERS—During the United Farm Workers, Albany, strike in Northern California last fall, union members visited tomato harvester crews in the fields. Now the growers are pushing rapid development of electronic eye harvesters to cut labor needs in 1975, a move they said was the answer to the UFW organizing drive. (El MALCRIADO Photo)
Our goal is a national union of the poor dedicated to world peace at to serving the needs of all men who suffer.

EL MALCRIADO is the official voice of the United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO.

EL MALCRIADO:
- exposes the exploitation of farm workers by the growers;
- reports on the many strikes and organizing drives of the UFW; and
- brings to light the new life of dignity and justice that the UFW is struggling for and winning each day.

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Book Review

VOICES FROM WOUNDED KNEE

Voices From Wounded Knee
The People Are Standing Up
Akwasasne Notes, 263 pp.

The year 1973 was one of historic landmarks in the U.S. The Watergate scandal was front page news, the U.S. withdrew most of its troops from Vietnam, the Teamsters union signed sweetheart contracts with California growers, and several hundred Native Americans reclaimed a small part of South Dakota as their own.

"Voices From Wounded Knee 1973" describes the three month confrontation between Oglala Sioux and other members of the American Indian Movement and the United States Government. "Voices" features penetrating interviews with the participants and many previously unpublished photographs.

In addition, the editors of the new book provide a narrative concerning the history of Wounded Knee and the reasons for the winter siege.

1890 MASSACRE

"In the winter of 1890, U.S. Government forces massacred nearly 300 Indian people, mainly women and children, after they had surrendered all but one of their weapons. The site of the massacre was Wounded Knee on the Pine Ridge Reservation.

"In the winter of 1973, several hundred Oglala Sioux and their supporters from other tribes returned to Wounded Knee to make a stand. They did so at the request of the Oglala traditional leaders, after all other means of changing conditions on the reservations had been exhausted.

"This stand on Indian land for Indian rights was not by the U.S. government with armored personnel carriers, helicopters, automatic rifles, and other Vietnam era weapons. But for 71 days, no Federal law enforcement personnel or Bureau of Indian Affairs officials had any authority in Wounded Knee.

"For 71 days, through countless battles and negotiating sessions, and despite the Government's blockade of food, fuel, and medical supplies, a self-governing community was built."

"Voices" contains interviews with both the Indians at Wounded Knee and Federal officers who commanded government operations. Those interviews reflect the feelings of the Sioux with remarkable clarity and provide the reader with an historical understanding of the problems between those who first lived on this land and the occupiers.

CONDITIONS

In addition to the description of the Wounded Knee confrontation, "Voices" describes the conditions inside the village. For example, the Native Americans built clinics, housing and other necessary services during those 71 days. All community members joined to build the projects while at the same time concentrating on paving the way for negotiations with the U.S. based on the Treaty of 1879 which guarantees self-determination for Native Americans.

"Voices" is recommended both for those with an understanding of the plight of Native Americans and for those with previously little knowledge in this field.

"Voices" can be purchased from Akwasasne Notes, Mohawk Nation at Akwasasne, via Roxsowen, New York 13683 for $4.95.

U.S. Marshals' bunker on the eastern perimeter of Wounded Knee. (Akwasasne Notes photo)
**Polishing Their Diamond Rings**

Ousted Teamster leader Ramon Macias is trying to make it look as if he was fired for nothing more than a minor violation of the union’s security rules. The strategy is aimed at diluting the power of the farm labor contractor who fired Macias for “organizing my workers,” says Macias. The contractor, M. A. Martinez, is the leader of the largest farm labor contractor in the nation, according to a stolen union contract. Macias says he was fired for organizing his workers under Teamster contract provisions.

Macias claims that the farm labor contractor has violated Teamster contracts, as well as a policy of accumulation of hours of work for qualification under the union’s medical and insurance plans.

In a telegram protest sent to Teamster President Fred Fitzsimmons from a group of Teamster officials, the contractor is named in a $5 million lawsuit for violation of Teamster contracts.

**Teamster Leadership**

Ousted Teamster leader Ramon Macias is currently quoted as saying in a meeting with a Teamster delegation that he was fired for organizing his workers under Teamster contracts. Macias says he was fired for “organizing my workers,” says Macias. The contractor, M. A. Martinez, is the leader of the largest farm labor contractor in the nation, according to a stolen union contract. Macias says he was fired for organizing his workers under Teamster contract provisions.

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boycott. When boycott organizers first arrived in Canada, the UAW shared its already crowded office space with the UFW. In 1973, when the boycott returned to Canada, that country's UAW sponsored a free car raffle at the Canadian National Exhibition to raise money for the boycott and reached over half a million people with the boycott grapes message in less than two weeks.

Days after assuming the UAW presidency, Brother Leonard Woodcock showed his commitment to carry on the union's fine tradition of solidarity with the farm workers. Brother Woodcock joined Cesar Chavez in a downtown Detroit rally which began the journey of the historic "Delano Freedom Bell" from Detroit, the UAW's home town to Delano, the home town of the UFW.

The Freedom Bell, wrapped in chains to symbolize the oppression of the farm workers, traveled from city to city in a van donated by UAW Ford local 600. As the bell left Detroit, Brother Woodcock told those gathered, "We pray the day will sound victory for the strikers and victory for freedom.

Strike support activity in the Detroit area has been organized by UAW Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey and UAW Vice President Oskar Komer. On August 1, 1974, for example, Mazey and Komer led 500 trade unionists, mostly UAW members, in a labor solidarity picket of a large supermarket here. Many is responsible for the UAW support of the boycott coordinated out of the UAW Solidarity House, the international headquarters located on the east side. Many's personal commitment to social justice and his particular affinity for the farm workers' struggle has prompted aggressive leadership behind the UAW's effective support campaign.

On a nationwide level, UAW members contribute $35,000 weekly through their international treasury. At the UFW convention last summer, members also voted to add an $80,000 bonus. In addition, across the country, thousands of rank-and-file members make direct personal contributions to the UFW at collections at local union meetings and at plant gates.

UAW local union leadership worked closely with the UFW staffs in various cities to promote money, supplies, and active support.

In Detroit, for example, the UAW provides housing for farm workers organizing the boycott, as well as providing complete medical care, legal assistance and office space. The UAW also directs a massive program of education and action around the boycott. Detroit's four regions committed themselves to covering 44 supermarkets with UAW picket lines every Saturday and Sunday.

Retired Auto Workers also prepared 50,000 informational leaflets for distribution to even UAW member in metropolitan Detroit. Due to the work and aid of the UAW, Solidarity House, the UAW Regional Office and local union halls, this UAW members on the boycott.

Retired Auto Workers, led by the "Grey Berets," have provided constant support and worked on special projects which are deeply appreciated by the UFW.

The retirees see the farm workers' struggle as reminiscent of the early days of their union and they bring to the cause the same dedication and determination with which they built their union. Their experience and spirit has provided invaluable inspiration and support to the farm workers union.

The UAW is a great labor union born of the dedication and sacrifice of many men and women. These people envisioned not only better wages and working conditions for auto workers, but a better life and a better world for all working people. The combination of the highest ideals and the aggresiveness, total commitment to achieving these ideals brought momentous changes in the quality of life for millions of people.

This spirit lives on in the UAW members and represents what is best in the labor movement. It is this powerful spirit which is so apparent in the UAW's unwavering support of the farm workers' struggle to organize.

The UFW has been given life by the physical and financial resources the UAW forcefully provides, but, in addition, the farm workers greatly benefit from the union's example.

As a young member of the labor family, the UFW has learned the meaning of Solidarity from the UAW. The UFW is proud to have the UAW at its side as it struggles to a second century of farm workers on the boycott.

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